

13. *Water-Supply*.—The water-supply project of Hunsur was completed during the year, while that of Kolar was under progress. Two estimates amounting to Rs. 11,118 and 9,620 were sanctioned in connection with the water-supply of Chikmagalur for replacing the 4" delivery main by 5" pipes and the works were commenced during the year. The Municipal Councils of Tiptur, Doddballapur, Arkalgud and Arsikere undertook the improvement of their water-supply by means of boreholes. The extension of the water works at Tumkur to supply water to Kuripalya and the northern extension at a cost of Rs. 24,200 was undertaken by the Municipal Council during the year.

14. *Public Health and Sanitation*.—Public health was generally good during the year in all the Districts except for the occasional outbreaks of plague, cholera, small-pox, etc., in certain places. Prompt steps are reported to have been taken for their suppression and prevention by the usual methods of inoculation, evacuation, etc.

15. *Public Safety and Convenience*.—Electric power was for the first time supplied during the year for general lighting purposes to the Towns of Anekal, Mandya, French-Rocks and Melkote.

16. *Audit and Inspection of Municipal Offices*.—The accounts of the several municipalities were audited by the Local Audit Staff of the Comptroller's Office. There was no improvement in regard to the disposal of audit notes and objection statements. The constitution and working of Audit Committees in Bangalore and Hassan continued to be unsatisfactory in spite of the observations of Government in the reviews of previous years.

17. *Inspections*.—The reviews of the Tumkur and Hassan Districts do not specify the number of municipal offices inspected by the Deputy Commissioners. In the Mysore District only 7 municipalities were inspected. In the other Districts with the exception of only a few all the municipalities were inspected during the year and instructions issued to rectify the defects noticed.

The Third Member of Council inspected the Offices of the Hassan and Chikmagalur Town Municipal Councils during the year.

18. *General*.—The three bills for City, Town and Minor Municipalities prepared by the new Committees referred to in the Government review of last year were since placed before the Representative Assembly and are now under consideration by the Legislative Council.

H. V. RAMASVAMI,
Secretary to Government,
General Department.

FINANCIAL SECRETARIAT.

Passes orders on the Report of the Public Accounts Committee.

READ—

Audit and Appropriation Report of the Comptroller on the accounts for the year 1930-31.

2. Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Audit and Appropriation Accounts of the year ending 30th June 1931.

ORDER No. FL. 2866-2945—G. F. 128-31-27, DATED BANGALORE, THE
18—26TH NOVEMBER 1932.

There was a delay of about three months in the submission of the Audit and Appropriation Report for 1930-31 by the Comptroller. He is requested to see that future reports are submitted to Government within the prescribed time. Government note with satisfaction that in spite of the delay, the Public Accounts Committee dealt with the above report and submitted its report in time for being placed before the Legislative Council at the June Session 1932.

2. Government have considered the Comptroller's report with the recommendations of the Committee and are pleased to pass the following orders on the more important points brought to notice :—

PART I.

3. *Paras 3 to 7. Variation in actuals from Grants.*—The Committee note that the report records some improvement over the previous year's result in the matter of reducing the divergences between the grants and actuals. Excesses have been reported in six grants. The Committee observe that the occurrence of excesses under some of the heads should have been foreseen and suitable action taken to avoid them by obtaining supplementary grants from the Legislature. Government wish to impress once again on the Heads of Departments, the necessity for carefully watching the progress of expenditure and taking all possible steps to ensure greater approximation between estimates and actuals and to avoid excesses over grants as well as lapses in grants and for taking prompt action for obtaining sanction of the Legislature before the close of the year when expenditure is likely to exceed the grant.

4. *Paras 8 and 9. Control of Expenditure.*—The suggestions made by the Comptroller to improve the existing arrangements for keeping the Heads of Departments informed of the progress of expenditure with reference to grants were examined by the Committee and they are of opinion that Heads of Departments would find it difficult to base their action on the expenditure figures obtained departmentally, since it may not always be possible to insist on the several subordinate officers throughout the State submitting in time monthly statements which are accurate and reliable, and that there is scope for improvement under the existing arrangement itself. They therefore suggest that the Heads of Departments should make better use of the Comptroller's figures which should be sent to them by the prescribed dates, that the warnings given by the Audit Department should receive prompt attention and that the Heads of Departments should carefully review the position when the revised estimates for the year are to be framed and take necessary action to prevent the possibility of the excess over grants or surrender grants not likely to be utilised before the close of the year. The devising of a satisfactory method for the proper watching and control of expenditure as compared with the Budget grant does not admit of an easy solution. The observations of the Committee will be noted and given effect to by heads of departments and the result watched.

5. *Para 10 Ibid.*—In para 67 of the Report, the Comptroller has suggested for consideration the provision of a suitable amount in the budget under a "contingencies fund" as in British India for meeting expenditure not foreseen at Budget time so that there may be an authorised procedure for meeting such expenditure to a limited extent. The Committee are not in favour of creation of the fund proposed as the object in view can best be attained by providing in the budget for all items likely to arise during the course of the year and avoiding as far as possible the need for additional and supplementary grants. Government agree with the views of the Committee.

6. *Para 11.—Gross and Net Grants.*—It is stated that the non-official members of the Committee are of opinion that the assent of the Legislative Council might be obtained for exceeding the "gross grants" even though the net expenditure was within the grants provided in the Budget. It is however noted that the Committee as a whole have held that what is voted by the Legislative Council is a net grant and it is only the excess thereon that has got to be placed before it. Government concur with this view.

7. *Para 13.—Non-voted Grants.*—The Committee have again raised the question as to whether the Public Accounts Committee is competent to review and comment on the expenditure falling under non-voted heads. Government have carefully considered the question and hold that since under the Regulation, the Legislative Council is not allowed to discuss expenditure falling under non-voted heads, one of its Committees, the Public Accounts Committee, cannot comment upon matters relating to non-voted heads.

PART II.—AUDIT REPORT.

8. *Para 16.*—The attention of the Comptroller is invited to the suggestions made in this para regarding the editing of the report and the necessity to apprise, in

advance of the printed report, the Heads of Departments, of the inclusion in the Audit Report of the more important items of irregularity on which final action had not already been taken by the Executive and he is requested to take necessary action in the matter.

9. *Para 17.*—The Comptroller reports that in respect of some of the cases of frauds and misappropriations of public funds about which criminal proceedings have been instituted, departmental action for the recovery or adjustment of the amount lost is being delayed pending the disposal of the criminal cases. Government, agreeing with the views of the Comptroller and the Public Accounts Committee, direct that prompt action should be taken by the departmental authorities to recover the lost amounts and otherwise to safeguard public interests except where the result of the departmental enquiry is inconclusive.

10. *Para 20.*—Government agree with the Committee that there has been unusual delay in the disposal of the inspection report of the Financial Assistant of the Electrical Department referred to in para 266 of the Comptroller's report and direct that it should be expedited.

11. *Para 21.*—The attention of the Director of Public Instruction is invited to the observations of the Committee regarding the need for proper scrutiny of the accounts of High Schools by trained accountants.

12. *Para 22.*—Government agree with the Committee that the claims of the Mysore Government against the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company on account of Joint Station expenses should be immediately preferred with a view to negotiations being carried on for the settlement of the claims preferred on both sides simultaneously and in an equitable manner and direct that prompt action may be taken in the matter.

13. *Para 24.*—The attention of the General Manager, Mysore Iron Works, is invited to the observations of the Committee and his suggestions for giving effect to the Government Order No. FI. 1078-1138—G. F. 46-29-1, dated 14th August 1929 and to the desire of the Committee are awaited.

14. *General.*—In regard to other matters dealt with in the Committee's report or their proceedings, Government direct that necessary action should be taken to remedy the defects, omissions, etc., brought to notice.

S. SHAMANNA,

*Secretary to Government,
Financial Department.*

PUBLIC WORKS SECRETARIAT.

Major Building Works of all Departments, to be entrusted to the Public Works Department.

READ—

G. O. No. D. 4256-8—I & C. 164-30-19, dated the 24th February 1932, sanctioning certain extensions to the Soap Factory Buildings at a cost of about Rs. 10,335.

2. G. O. No. D. 881-83—I & C. 54-32, dated the 26th August 1932, directing that the work of extending the Industrial Laboratory Buildings at Malleswaram be executed through the agency of the Industries and Commerce Department.

3. Public Works Secretary's Note No. D. 477, dated the 3rd November 1932, *re* execution of works by other than Public Works Department.

ORDER No. 1124-1164—S, DATED BANGALORE, THE 28TH NOVEMBER 1932.

It has been brought to the notice of Government that during the last few years, cases have occurred where buildings, both of the Industries and Agricultural Depart-